

THE AAUW KEY

Palo Alto CA Branch

December 2019 • Volume 67 • Number 2

Welcome the New Year with Palo Alto AAUW

- Celebrate the arrival of 2020 a few days early!
- Bring partners, friends and neighbors to AAUW's seasonal party.
- Light snacks and beverages will be served.

Saturday, December 28
2:00 to 4:00 pm

Channing House
11th Floor
850 Webster St.
Palo Alto

RSVP: mariewolbach@gmail.com

2019-2020 Branch Year Fall Kickoff

On a lovely morning early in September, we had a nice Fall Kickoff meeting and brunch. It was fun to catch up on everyone's summer experiences while enjoying a Continental breakfast provided by our Board members and the Tech Trek committee.

Our featured program that morning was a panel of 2019 Tech Trek campers, including a 2019 Junior Counselor (who was one of our 2014 camper), and two Tech Trek teachers. The discussion was lively as the girls shared their joys of the week and their appreciation for the opportunity to attend Tech Trek through the generosity of our Branch members.



2020 Tech Trek Committee

Anna Zara

On November 11, the TT Branch Coordinators from the branches sending girls to Camp Hopper met to learn about the 2019 camp from the camp directors Cynthia and Jennifer Miller and to make plans for the 2020 camp. (Cynthia and Jennifer are a mother/daughter pair who had their first year as camp directors. They are members of the Los Gatos/Saratoga branch and Jennifer was a past TT camper.) At that meeting we discussed and shared best practices of each Branches' camper selection process as well as reviewing the attributes we look for in girls to attend camp. The meeting was a good opportunity to collaborate and learn from each other and from the camp directors.



2020 TT Branch Coordinators with Camp Treasurer Gail Chesler and Camp Co-Director Cynthia Miller are seated in the first two chairs.



This year we hope to send 8 local rising 8th grade girls to Tech Trek's Camp Grace Hopper to be held in July of 2020.

If you would like to join our Branch's Tech Trek Committee to work on the camper selection process for the 2020 camp year, please send an email to aauw.pa.techtrek@gmail.com. We will have our annual committee meeting on Saturday, January 11 and we interview the campers in March.

The mission of Tech Trek is to inspire girls who have an interest in science, technology, engineering and/or math to challenge themselves to take a "full load" of STEM classes throughout high school and college. And to help give the girls the necessary confidence to take on and succeed with this challenge. More details about Tech Trek Camp Grace Hopper may be found here: <https://techtrekgh.aauw.net>

The cost of sending one girl to Tech Trek is \$1,000. Your donations are crucial to the success of our program. To make a contribution to our Branch's Tech Trek camper sponsorship, please make your checks payable to "AAUW-CA SPF" and write "Palo Alto – TT Camp Hopper" in the memo line. Then mail your check to me, Anna Zara, at this address: 4 E Creek Pl, Menlo Park, CA 94025.

Thanks! Our girls are always grateful for this life changing opportunity.

Besides Tech Trek, did you know that AAUW also gives fellowships and grants? Take this quiz and find the answer after Section Meetings listing. How many years has AAUW been awarding fellowships for graduate studies?

- a. 200
- b. 130
- c. 90
- d. 50

How many dollars is AAUW giving out for fellowships and grants for the 2019-20 academic year?

- a. \$12 million
- b. \$4 million
- c. \$300,000
- d. \$40,000

AAUW Interbranch Council (IBC)

The seven AAUW branches in Santa Clara County send a representative to four IBC meetings each year to discuss the branches' mutual goals and concerns. Mary Morrison is Palo Alto branch's current representative at the IBC.

All seven of the branches sponsor girls at the Tech Trek program at Stanford. At IBC all of the branches share the ways they are supporting AAUW's goals.

However, this is a special year as the branches are gearing up to celebrate the 100th anniversary of women's suffrage. The amendment giving women the right to vote was ratified on August 18, 1920. AAUW in Santa Clara County and the county's Office of Women's Policy are co-chairing a *Centennial Celebration Work Group*. That group has funding for mini-grants to support local communities' efforts to further the celebration. For more information go to <https://www.sccgov.org/sites/we2020/Pages/home.aspx>

--Mary Morrison

OTHER BRANCH NEWS ...

Holiday Party, December 28. Save the Date.

Last Year's Holiday party was a very successful branch party, this year our holiday celebration will again take place in December. This year we will celebrate at the "Top of the Town" on the 11th floor of Channing House. Spouses are invited. See the Cover for other information.

Mary Morrison named to State Committee

Palo Alto AAUW member and past-president Mary Morrison was recently elected to serve on the nine-member Board of the AAUW Special Projects Fund (SPF). Her election is an honor and recognition of her many skills and financial expertise.

SPF is a 501(c)3 tax-exempt corporation formed in 2001 to be the fiduciary agent of AAUW-California. It handles monies for Tech Trek, Speech Trek, and large branch projects. The SPF Board is entirely separate from the AAUW-California Board of Directors.

More information is available at:
<https://specialprojectsfund-ca.aauw.net>.

---Marie Wolbach

AAUW Palo Alto Celebrates 90 Years

Plan to celebrate the 90th Anniversary of AAUW Palo Alto on the afternoon of Saturday, February 22. Location is being finalized and you'll be notified well in advance.

The party will include a Reader's Theatre presentation of branch history. One special guest has agreed to participate.

Of course, there will be cake. Please, invite former members and neighbors to attend the party with you. It's an excellent reason for a celebration.

All About Books – and the Cancellation of the Authors' Lunch

For ten years we have had a successful fundraiser for Tech Trek—a luncheon at Michael's at Shoreline with a panel of three or four authors and a moderator.

Unfortunately, we are not able to continue this popular event. Books, Inc. has handled the book sales for a number of years. Now, according to Dori Jaroslaw, book store manager, they will no longer have staff available to transport and sell the books.

I'm especially sad that we will not have a chance to hear from Amy Stewart. Ms. Stewart's historical mystery novel, *Girl Waits with Gun*, is based on a real-life person who was the first woman deputy sheriff in New Jersey. Amy's publicist and I agreed that this was wonderfully appropriate to AAUW. Amy Stewart would have appeared as part of our panel this coming spring.

--Barbara Evans

Soroptimists Fighting Sex Trafficking.

An acquaintance in this organization told me that this is their special focus this year. Sex trafficking has been connected with big sporting events such as the Superbowl. **January is Sex Trafficking Awareness Month.** AAUW has resources to identify children who are being trafficked. Or you can search the web for organizations fighting trafficking.

--Barbara Evans



Section Meetings

For contact information, please refer to your directory or email our Section Coordinator Scotty Martinson, section@aauw-paloalto.org

AFTERNOON BOOKS: Meets on the 3rd Tuesday from 1 to 3 p.m. at members' houses. We read novels selected by the group. For info contact Joyce Freiberg

DRAMA READING: Meets on the 2nd Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Mary Ashley. The group reads a play script distributed by an AAUW drama reading committee for a network of California branches. For further info call Millie Saxman.

FAMILY HISTORY: Meets on the 2nd Tuesday at Cibo's Restaurant, 3398 El Camino at 11:45 a.m. for a no-host lunch meeting with monthly historical themes. Please contact Betsy Colby with any questions.

GADABOUTS: Meets year-round on the fourth Monday at 1:30 p.m. at the home of Misao Sakamoto, to plan adventures and outings of all kinds. For further info call Scotty Martinson.

MAH JONG: meets on the 1st and 3rd Mondays at 7:00 p.m. at members' homes. Beginners and advanced players are invited to play Mah Jong, a Chinese tile game. For further info and locations call Marcia Baugh.

MEDITATION: Meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 10 a.m., at the home of Marcia Baugh, 490 Gary Court. All are welcome come and learn about meditation. For further info call Charlotte Jackson 494-6973

MYSTERY BOOKS: Meets 2nd Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m., at the home of Marcia Baugh, 490 Gary Court. The group discusses a new topic each time. For further info call Marcia Baugh

WALKERS: Friday at 10:00 a.m. Some of us are interested in starting Walkers again. To indicate interest, call me, Barbara Evans.

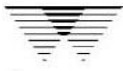
WINE TASTING: Meets the 4th Sunday of the month from 5 to 7 p.m. Domestic or imported wines, selected by the group, are sampled. Spouses are welcome. For further info call Carol Hansen or Barbara Bowden.

WRITERS: Meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m, at the homes of members. The members meet twice a month to read to each other what they have written. In this way we are encouraged to keep up our writing. Please contact Marcia Baugh.

Board Meetings. All members are welcome to attend. We meet on the 11th floor of Channing House from 11:30 to 1:00 on the first Tuesday except in the month of January.

Answers to Quiz: The right answer to each is "B",

AAUW has been awarding fellowships for graduate studies for 130 years! For the 2019 – 2020 AAUW gave four million dollars in grants or scholarships.



The Key
AAUW
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PERIODICALS

Palo Alto Branch 2019-2020

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